

Voluntary - Public

**Clearance Office:** All - FAS

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## Croatia

**Post:** Zagreb

## Farmers' Protest

### Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

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### Report Highlights:

A number of farmers' associations rallied in front of the Ministry of Agriculture on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> of June to present demands on milk and grain prices, overdue subsidy payments, high dairy and cheese imports from Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina and other issues. Although farmers have staged similar demonstrations before each grain harvest for the past several years, this occasion drew more participants and a wider range of demands. Croatian government officials and protesting farmers wrapped up negotiations on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June after Deputy Prime Ministers and Minister of Economy, Labor and Entrepreneurship accepted a majority of their demands. Negotiating parties had agreed about the minimum milk price; announced negotiations with the Croatian Bank for Reconstruction and Development (HBOR) and commercial banks on the rescheduling of loans granted to farmers; agreed on the introduction of measures temporarily banning the import of dairy products, primarily cheeses; and government promised to fully pay subsidies for crops.

### General Information:

A number of farmers' associations rallied in front of the Ministry of Agriculture on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> of June to present demands on milk and grain prices, overdue subsidy payments, high dairy and

cheese imports from Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina and other issues. Farmers have parked about 200 tractors on the one of the main streets in Zagreb, where the Agriculture Ministry is located, hampering traffic. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June some farmers on about 100 tractors stayed in front of the Croatian side of the border crossing into Bosnia Herzegovina in Slavonski Samac. They decided to block the border crossing in a sign of support to the protesters that gathered in front of the Ministry of Agriculture in Zagreb. The main farmers' request was to meeting with the government and negotiate their position on dairy and grain prices.

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